

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 11-12 and 15-16 have been amended to improve the form thereof. Thus, claims 11-16 are pending for further examination.

Claims 11-13 and 15-16 remain rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Martin (U.S. Patent No. 5,355,302) in view of Cohen (U.S. Patent No. 6,198,408) and further in view of Blahut (U.S. Patent No. 5,663,756) and Wachob (U.S. Patent No. 5,046,093). The claims also have been further rejected as being obvious over Mino (U.S. Patent No. 5,980,261) in view of Cohen. Applicant has amended independent claim 11 and dependent claims 12, 15-16 herein in a manner that is believed to more clearly distinguish the prior art of record. Thus, consideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The Office Action asserts that all of the elements in claim 11 were anticipated by Martin, except for the element of "a plurality of remote control devices for the jukebox devices, respectively, at least one jukebox is operable to store the control code for use in comparing the control code sent by the remote control or by the server via the distribution network with the control code stored on the jukebox to determine whether or not the jukebox will respond to control codes from the remote control." However, Applicant respectfully submits that Martin only teaches jukeboxes 13 communicating with a central

management system 11 and each having a keyboard 123, and not the remaining features set forth in claim 11.

The Office Action also asserts that, in view of Cohen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a controlling apparatus for remotely controlling the jukebox instead of using a keyboard. However, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not look to Cohen because Cohen only teaches a switch that operates to turn on and off current from a source.

Applicant respectfully submits that a person of ordinary skill in the art would not include the control code storage mechanism from Cohen without also including the switch (16, 26, 36) from Cohen. Accordingly, adapting Martin in view of Cohen requires the addition of the switch (16, 26, 36). Further, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to replace a complicated keyboard with a simple on/off switch from Cohen. The remotely controlled switch taught in Cohen is useful only for controlling a plurality of simple devices, such as a fan 14, a table lamp 34, and a light bulb 24. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that it is improper to combine Martin and Cohen because Cohen does not suggest the claimed remote control device for controlling a plurality of functions of a jukebox device.

Even if the combination of Martin, Cohen and Blahut were proper, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not obtain the claimed invention. In view of Blahut and Cohen, which allegedly teach storing a control code, one of ordinary skill in the art only would have added identification information to the

teachings of Cohen, as this is an obvious way to provide for the identification of the user of the remote control unit. However, this teaching is only an adaptation of Cohen, which teaches controlling a plurality of electrical appliances via respective converters, each provided with an electrical appliance.

Even if the combination of Martin and Wachob were proper, Applicant respectfully submits that a person of ordinary skill in the art would not additionally consider the teachings of Cohen, which are significantly different from Martin and Wachob. Martin in view of Wachob does not render obvious the elements of amended independent claim 11.

Furthermore, none of the cited prior art teaches or suggests a remote control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit, as required by amended claim 11.

Finally, Applicant respectfully submits that the teachings and suggestions of Martin, Cohen, Blahut, and Wachob do not address the problem the claimed invention seeks to solve – namely, to provide in a jukebox system with a secure and user-friendly remote control unit. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that it is not proper to combine Martin with any of the other cited prior art to achieve the claimed invention. Such a conclusion would be the result of an interpretation of the prior art as influenced by the problem solved by the claimed invention, while the problem (having a set of efficient user-friendly remote controls, each for enabling a secure control of one of a plurality of

jukeboxes devices) was neither taught nor suggested by the prior art of record. In this vein, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention could not be considered obvious without the use of impermissible hindsight.

The Office Action also asserts that independent claim 11 is obvious in view of Mino and Cohen. However, Applicant notes that Mino is directed to a karaoke system. Furthermore, Mino does not suggest a remote control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit. In complete contrast, Mino teaches "customer identifying means 4 adapted to an identifier contained in signals transmitted from said personal remote control 8 of the customer, for requesting karaoke data in the remote terminal apparatus (1) of the karaoke system" (claim 6). Furthermore, the remote control 8 is not provided for controlling a plurality of functions of a jukebox device.

Cohen is directed to an apparatus for enabling on/off switching in electrical devices. Applicant respectfully submits that the whole claimed invention is not rendered obvious by Cohen, which is directed to another technical problem area than that of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, even if the combination of Mino and Cohen were proper, their teachings and suggestions do not render obvious the claimed jukebox system having specific functionalities that are controlled by a particular remote control that is authorized via an identification code.

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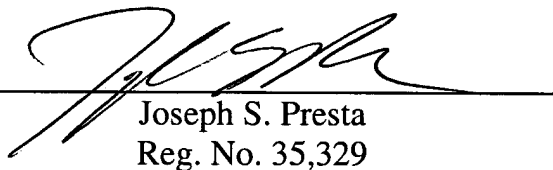
For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that all of the pending claims clearly and patentably distinguish the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Thus, withdrawal of the rejections and passage of this case to allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions, or deem that any formal issues need to be addressed, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the phone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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